Rabbi's Column

First things First:

Passover is coming. Soon. So, if you want to be at the Seder, make sure to let the right person know (not me).

Begin with the End in Mind

Not the End of Time, or anything that grand. Rather, the purpose for which something is done. To help create a plethora of possibilities when it comes to tefillah experiences, a couple of different groups in the congregation have come up with some options. One is a service with musical accompaniment. Before offering such an option, it is important to have some people with musical talent. I have spoken with a couple of the young members, but their ability (according to self reports) is not yet up to an entire service, but just a song or two within the services. This would not be the kind of Purim entertainment, but people who would be davvening through their music.

If you would like to see this kind of event, help drag the musicians from the woodwork. The thought is to have this about once a quarter, or at least twice a year, but it needs musicians.

The second option some people have expressed an interest in seeing is a traditional service. More Hebrew and more singing.

Some people even thought these options should be made available for Saturday morning, and not just Friday night. Scheduling either option on a Saturday morning would require some positive RSVPs to the concept in general, and then having a minyan (10 Jews) on Shabbat morning. These RSVPs can come to me.

A tiny bit of Torah

This week we continue to speak about Tzara'at (translated as leprosy, probably more like a combination of every skin discoloration you can imagine which is not limited to people). It is always important to remember that even when people were not within the same city walls, because of the contagious ritual impurities they exhibited, they were still part of the same community. It is equally important to try and live that reality today. May God help each of us make our communities more than just a small subset of people.